## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 07640 172213Z ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01

-----026140 181303Z /47

R 171651Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1694
INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL POUCH
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: IBRD, SG

SUBJECT: IBRD PRESIDENT MCNAMARA VISITS DAKAR

REF: BANJUL 1590

- 1. IBRD PRESIDENT ROBERT MCNAMARA SPENT NOVEMBER 14 IN DAKAR. VISIT RECEIVED FRONT PAGE NEWSPAPER COVERAGE AND DOMINATED RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWSCASTS.
- 2. MR. MCNAMARA MET WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR, MINISTER OF PLAN OUSMANE SECK, MAMADOU AMADOU AW, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF OMVS (ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENEGAL RIVER VALLEY) AND CHEIKH HAMIDOU KANE, HEAD OF PLANNED DAKAR MARINE SHIP REPAIR FACILITY. HE ALSO GAVE INTERVIEW TO DAKAR DAILY, LE SOLEIL, WHICH REPORTED THAT MCNAMARA HAD RECONFIRMED IBRD'S INTENTION TO ASSIST OMVS AND WOULD ALSO TAKE NEW LOOK AT DAKAR MARINE. (AIRGRAM FOLLOWS ON CURRENT STATE OF PLANNING FOR THIS FACILITY). BOTH AW AND KANE DECLARED THEMSELVES ENCOURAGED BY PROSPECTS FOR IBRD ASSISTANCE, AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH OUTCOME OF VISIT IN REMARKS TO NOV. 15 CABINET MEETING.

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3. DURING WIDE-RANGING NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, MCNAMARA NOTED SENEGAL'S HIGH BIRTH RATE (2.6 PERCENT) AND RAISED SUBJECT OF FAMILY PLANNING, A SENSITIVE TOPIC HERE. LE SOLEIL DIRECTOR BARA DIOUF RESPONDED THAT "RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND LOCAL CUSTOMS WOULD ACT AS A BRAKE" ON ACCEPTANCE OF FAMILY PLANNING.

4. THOUGH NO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE DURING VISIT, IBRD PLANS TO OPEN RESIDENT DAKAR OFFICE IN EARLY 1978, STAFFED BY AMCIT JONATHAN BROWN. WHETHER THIS REFLECTS GREATER INTEREST IN SENEGAL OR SIMPLY REPRESENTS LOGISTICAL DECISION REMAINS TO BE SEEN, BUT BANK'S LOCAL PRESENCE WILL PLEASE SENEGALESE AND HEIGHTEN THEIR EXPECTATIONS. COHEN

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: VISITS, BANKERS Control Number: n/a

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Decaption Note:

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Subject: IBRD PRESIDENT MCNAMARA VISITS DAKAR TAGS: EFIN, OTRA, SG, IBRD, (MCNAMARA, ROBERT S)

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